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FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F), IS, RO, XF

SUBJECT: BRIEFING ROMANIANS ON VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

REF: BUCHAREST 4717

- 1. FOLLOWING ARE TALKING POINTS FOR YOUR USE IN BRIEFING FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI ON VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO ISRAEL AND EGYPT.
- 2. PRIMARY AIM OF VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO ISRAEL WAS TO CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY AND TO REAFFIRM UNSWERVING U.S. SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S SECURITY. THE VICE PRESIDENT POINTED OUT PUBLICLY THAT U.S. ROLE IN ASSISTING CONFIDENTIAL

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ISRAEL TO MEET ITS SECURITY AND ECONOMIC NEEDS WILL CONTINUE AND WILL NOT BE USED AS MEANS OF BRINGING PRESSURE ON ISRAEL'S NEGOTIATING STANCE.

3. MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AND OTHER ISRAELI LEADERS (NAVON, YADIN, DAYAN, WEIZMAN, EHRLICH, AND PERES) WERE FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPDATING AND BROADENING OUR UNDER-

STANDING OF THE CURRENT SITUATION AS IT AFFECTS THE PEACE PROCESS AND CURRENT BILATERAL ISSUES SUCH AS SECURITY NEEDS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND PROBLEMS IN LEBANON.

- 4. DISCUSSIONS WITH BEGIN FOCUSED ON HOW TO RESUME MOMENTUM IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND ON THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO A MEETING IN LONDON BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL WITH SECRETARY VANCE PRESENT (NOW SCHEDULED FOR JULY 18 AND 19). THE VICE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER REVIEWED AS WELLISRAEL'S NEGOTIATING POSITION BOTH WITH RESPECT TO THE SINAI AND THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. THE OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING IN LEBANON WAS DISCUSSED AND THE VICE PRESIDENT INFORMED BEGIN OF OUR EFFORTS TO URGE THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT, AND THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE FIGHTING TO RESTORE THE CEASEFIRE. THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL SHARES THIS OBJECTIVE.
- 5. THE VICE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTSWHIL: IN ISRAEL FOCUSED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ACHIEVING NEW MOMENTUM IN THE PEACE PROCESS; OTHERWISE THIS PERIOD WHEN PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS SEEM HOPEFUL MAY PASS AND BECOME DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO RECLAIM. THE VICE PRESIDENT STRESSED THAT RESOLUTION 242 PROVIDES THE FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATION; THAT THE ISSUE OF ISRAEL'S SECURITY CAN BE SEPARATED FROM THE QUESTION OF TERRITORY (IN THIS REGARD THE VICE PRESIDENT DID NOT REPEAT NOT EQUATE THE SINAI SITUATION TO THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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OF THE WEST BANK AND GAZA); AND THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE PARTIES TO MOVE FROM PUBLICLY STATING THEIR MAXIMUM POSITIONS TO THE POSITIVE EXPLORATION OF WAYS TO BRIDGE THEIR DIFFERENCES.

- 6. IN SUM, THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT ACCOMPLISHED TWO IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES: IT EXPRESSED THE ENDURING NATURE OF THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL IN WAYS THAT ADDRESSED SPECIFIC ISRAELI CONCERNS; AND IT HELPED RESTORE MOMENTUM TO THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS THROUGH ADVANCING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEXT STEP, THE LONDON MEETING.
- 7. THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO EGYPT, ALTHOUGH BRIEF, HAD A VERY POSITIVE IMPACT. DISCUSSIONS WITH SADAT FOCUSED ON THE PEACE PROCESS AND CONCLUDED WITH PRESIDENT SADAT'S DECISION TO SEND FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL TO LONDON AND TO PRESENT THE VICE PRESIDENT WITH EGYPT'S PEACE PROPOSALS.

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